

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification by replacing the following paragraphs:

[0027]

Accordingly, there ~~There~~ is no possibility that ~~[[,]]~~ the band saw blade contacts against the band saw machine main unit ~~as the direction of the band saw blade is not fixed,~~ resulting in damage of the blade and the device main unit.

[0047]

Fig. 1 is a conceptual and schematic front explanation view of a horizontal band saw machine in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a side explanation view showing positional relationship between a driving wheel, a driven wheel and guide posts when viewed from the side.

~~[[Fig. 3]]~~ Fig. 3 is an side explanation view of a double-post horizontal band saw machine having a band saw blade attachment auxiliary device in accordance with the embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 4 is a front explanation view of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a left side explanation view of Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a right side explanation view of Fig. 3.

Fig. 7 is a back explanation view of Fig. 3.

Fig. 8 is a view for explaining the state where the band saw blade is inserted from above the guide posts of the double-post horizontal band saw machine having the band saw blade attachment auxiliary device according to the present invention.

Fig. 9 is a view for explaining the state where an upper traveling part of the band saw blade is inserted into the saw blade guide of the double-post horizontal band saw machine having the band saw blade attachment auxiliary device according to the present invention and fixed thereto.

Fig. 10 is a view for explaining the state where the lower traveling part of the band saw blade is attached to outer peripheries of the driving wheel and the driven wheel through a slit of the band saw blade guide of the double-post horizontal band saw machine having the band saw blade attachment auxiliary device according to the present invention.

Fig. 11 is a view for explaining the state where the lower traveling part of the band saw blade is attached to outer peripheries of the driving wheel and the driven wheel through a slit of the band saw blade guide of the double-post horizontal band saw machine having the band saw blade attachment auxiliary device according to the present invention.

Fig. 12 is a front view of the horizontal band saw machine used in the embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 13 is a back explanation view of Fig. 12.

Fig. 14 is a right side explanation view of Fig. 12.

Fig. 15 is a schematic back explanation view of a saw blade driving device in accordance with a third embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 16 is a sectional view taken along an arrow line XVI-XVI in Fig. 15.

Fig. 17 is a sectional view showing a configuration of a shaft of the driving wheel.

Fig. 18 is a schematic back explanation view of a saw blade driving device in accordance with a fourth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 19 is a schematic back explanation view of a saw blade driving device in accordance with a fifth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 20 is a schematic back explanation view of a saw blade driving device in accordance with a sixth embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 21 is a side enlarged view of a fixed saw blade guide and a movable saw blade guide and shows the state where the band saw blade is guided by a front insert and a rear insert.

Fig. 22 is a side enlarged view of the fixed saw blade guide and the movable saw blade guide and shows the rear insert is opened relative to the front insert.

Fig. 23(A) is a plan view showing the state where a work is sent by a sending vise and the

work held by a main unit vise is cut with the band saw blade and Fig. 23(B) is a side view of Fig 23(A).

Fig. 24(A) is a plan view showing the state where the work is cut and then the band saw blade returns to an original position and Fig. 24(B) is a side view of Fig 24(A).

Fig. 25(A) is a plan view showing the state where the work is held between the front vise and the rear vise and cut and Fig. 25(B) is a plan view showing the state where the work is moved with the front vise and the rear vise after cutting.

Fig. 26 is a plan view showing the state where the work is moved with the main unit vise, the sending vise and the front vise after cutting.

Fig. 27 is a perspective view of the horizontal band saw machine as a band saw machine.

Fig. 28 is a side view for explaining a mode in which positional relationship between the guide posts and the saw blade is partially modified.

Fig. 29 is a side view for explaining a mode in which positional relationship between the guide posts and the saw blade is partially modified.

[0050]

Hereinafter, when describing the horizontal band saw machine 1, a direction in which a work W moves with respect to the horizontal band saw machine 1 ~~material is sent~~ is defined as an X-axis direction, a direction perpendicular to the X-axis direction in which the saw blade runs is defined as a Y-axis direction, a direction in which the work W ~~material~~ advances to be cut in the X-axis direction is defined as a forward direction (represented by "F" in Fig. 21 and Fig. 27) and a direction in which the cut work W ~~material~~ retreats is defined as a rearward direction (represented by "R" in Fig. 21 and Fig. 27).

[0052]

The left and right wheel brackets 13L, 13R are inclined so that the upper sides may become the rear sides (the upper sides may become the back face sides in Fig. 1). The lower

sides of the slide sleeves 11L, 11R and the lower parts of the left and right wheel brackets 13L, 13R are integrally coupled to a horizontally long beam member 14. The beam member 14 and the left and right wheel brackets 13L, 13R form a saw blade housing for rotatably supporting a driving wheel and a driven wheel described later ~~so as to be opened to the upside in the shape of C and limit the height.~~ When the saw blade housing is raised, the housing has the appearance of a C shape configuration and is limited in height.

[0065]

Since the center of gravity of the saw blade housing is provided at the forward side of the saw blade housing, ~~and thus~~ clearances between the upper rear sides of the guide posts 7L, 7R and the upper rear sides of the slide sleeves 11L, 11R, respectively, are kept at nearly zero clearance. ~~[[.]]~~ Thus, when the upper traveling part 23U of the band saw blade 23 contacts against the work W and starts the cutting of the work W, the slide sleeves 11L, 11R can smoothly slide with respect to the guide posts 7L, 7R in the vertical direction without causing any shock or the like due to the existence of the clearances between the guide posts 7L, 7R and the slide sleeves 11L, 11R, respectively.

Please replace the Abstract submitted with the application as filed with the new Abstract appearing on the following page.